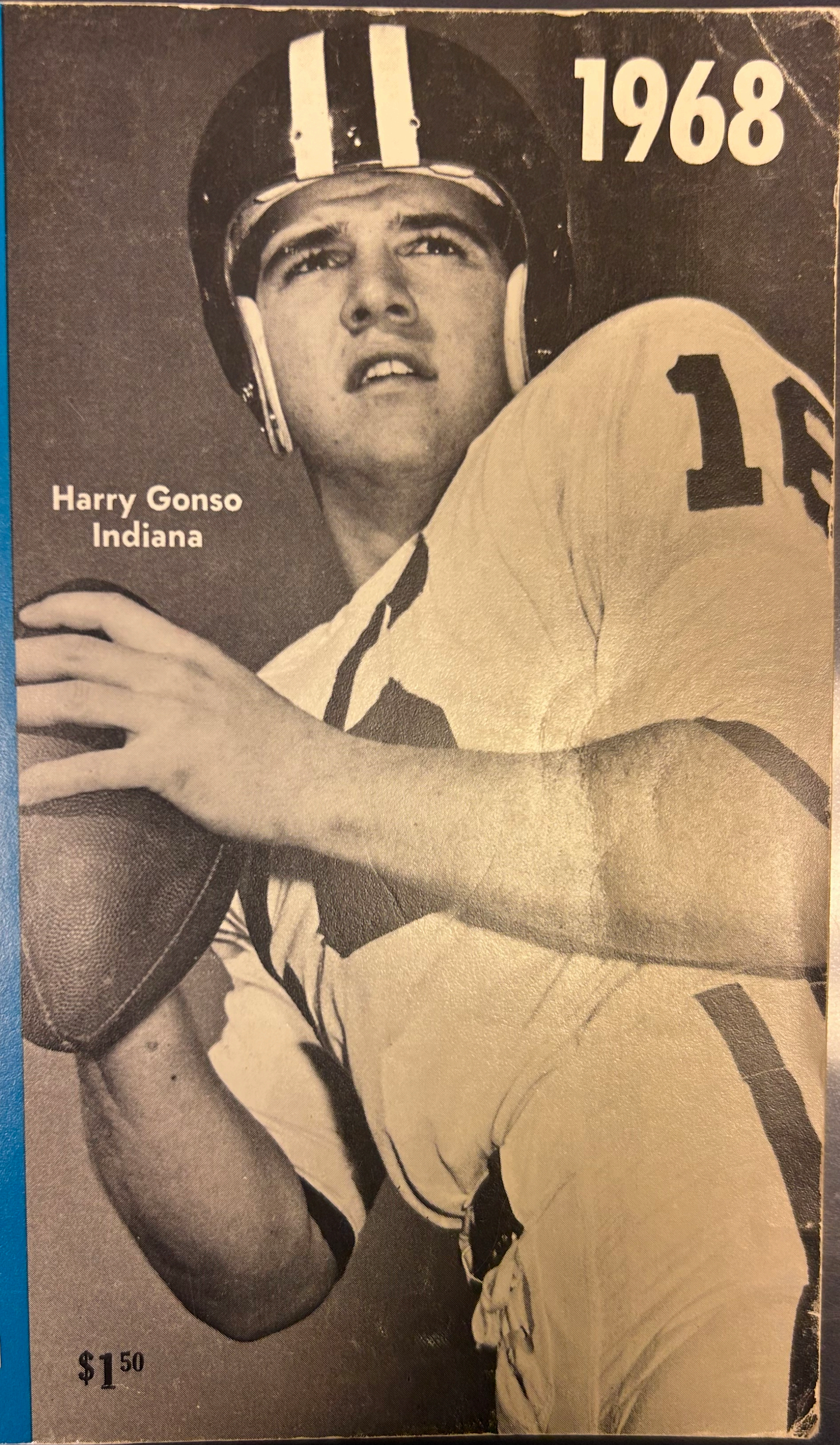
Official COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL Guide

1968



Harry Gonso
Indiana

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NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, 1924-1967

Southern California was the 1967 choice of both the writers' and coaches' polls as college football's unofficial national champion. The Trojans also were voted the Grantland Rice Award by the Football Writers' Association of America.

It was Southern California's fourth national crown in 44 years. Only Notre Dame (8 times) and Minnesota (5) have been honored more often.

The Associated Press poll of sports writers was originated in 1936 and the United Press International poll of coaches in 1950. Representing opinions of observers across the country, they are the popularly accepted electors to national ranking. Prior to the polls, the Rissman and Knute Rockne trophies symbolized the championships from 1924 to 1936. The titlists so designated:

1967—Southern Cal	1956—Oklahoma	1945—Army	1934—Minnesota
1966—Notre Dame	1955—Oklahoma	1944—Army	1933—Michigan
1965—Ala., Mich. St.	1954—Ohio St., UCLA	1943—Notre Dame	1932—Michigan
1964—Alabama	1953—Maryland	1942—Ohio State	1931—Southern Cal
1963—Texas	1952—Michigan State	1941—Minnesota	1930—Notre Dame
1962—Southern Cal	1951—Tennessee	1940—Minnesota	1929—Notre Dame
1961—Alabama	1950—Oklahoma	1939—Texas A&M	1928—Southern Cal
1960—Minnesota	1949—Notre Dame	1938—TCU	1927—Illinois
1959—Syracuse	1948—Michigan	1937—Pittsburgh	1926—Stanford
1958—LSU	1947—Notre Dame	1936—Minnesota	1925—Dartmouth
1957—Auburn, Ohio St.	1946—Notre Dame	1935—SMU	1924—Notre Dame

NATIONAL RATINGS, 1936-1967

The most successful major teams of the past 32 years, according to the ratings produced by the press association polls, have been Notre Dame and Oklahoma. Counting 10 points for each season-end first place rating, 9 for second and so on, the Irish have accumulated 134 points, to the Sooners' next best 102.

1. Notre Dame ...134	5. Michigan 74	9. Army 61	13. Mississippi ... 50
2. Oklahoma 102	6. Mich. State ... 72	10. Minnesota 57	13. Navy 50
3. Alabama 85	7. Ohio State 68	11. UCLA 52	13. Southern Cal . 50
4. Tennessee 76	8. Texas 64	11. LSU 52	16. Ga. Tech 39

That was the first of four successive losses for Coach Gene Stallings team, which flopped about and won six to tie Texas Tech for the Southwest Conference title, then share in another dramatic television moment. That came after a Cotton Bowl victory over Alabama when Bryant walked across the field, hugged his one-time pupil like he must have hugged that carnival bear and lifted Stallings off his feet as a victory accolade.

BETWEEN THESE BITTER AND SWEET moments for the Aggies, a great many teams were reminded of the truth in the cliche: "On a given day . . ." Oregon State handed USC its only loss, meted one of Purdue's two and tied UCLA. But upsetters can be upset, and Coach Dee Andros' players look back to engagements with BYU and Washington with great remorse.

As reputations were tarnished and dynasties cracked, relative strangers enjoyed prosperity. Oklahoma unseated Nebraska in the Big Eight. Texas A&M and Tech came alive in the SWC. Tennessee, Yale and Minnesota snapped back to titles and independent Penn State thrived with rookies.

THE COMEBACK STORY OF THE YEAR unquestionably was Indiana, which improved from 1-8-1 to 9-1-0, gained a share of the Big Ten title for the first time since 1945 and made it to the Rose Bowl. Pont's team won six conference games. It took six years and 38 tries for the previous five.

Notre Dame suffered a double loss—graduation of Nick Eddy and the razing of the venerable Oliver Hotel. Eddy's running was missed most.

Southern Cal, equipped with marvelous O. J. Simpson, came calling early in the season. USC was No. 1 in the polls, Notre Dame was No. 5 but the Irish were 12-point favorites. Simpson & Co. rolled, 24-7.